

BACKGROUNDER NO. 1-0785  
JOHN LENNON

MAY 14, 1976

THIS WEEK NO. 20  
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR:

"THIS WEEK."

FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK GONE BY...A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE IDEAS AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS-----.

NARR:

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN TOOK A FEW MORE TWISTS AND TURNS THIS WEEK -- WITH SOME BANDWAGONS PICKING UP STEAM, OTHERS SLOWING DOWN, AND STILL OTHERS REMAINING BROKEN DOWN AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE, CONSERVATIVE CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN -- THE FORMER CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR WHO HAS MADE STEADY GAINS SINCE GOING ON THE ATTACK SEVERAL WEEKS AGO -- ADDED MUCH-NEEDED MOMENTUM IN HIS BID TO TAKE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY NOMINATION AWAY FROM PRESIDENT FORD. IN THE COMPLICATED PROCESS OF THE SELECTION OF DELEGATES -- MEN AND WOMEN PLEDGED TO EITHER CANDIDATE AT THE PARTY CONVENTION IN JULY -- THE TWO MEN EACH WON ONE PRIMARY, MISTER REAGAN IN NEBRASKA AND MISTER FORD IN WEST VIRGINIA, WITH MISTER REAGAN WINNING SLIGHTLY MORE DELEGATES IN THE DAY'S BALLOTING.

BUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MISTER REAGAN'S VICTORY IN NEBRASKA WAS THAT IT WAS HIS FIRST IN A MAJOR MIDWESTERN STATE, WHERE MISTER FORD WAS SUPPOSED TO WIN, AND THAT IT SHOWED HIS STRENGTH AMONG REPUBLICAN VOTERS -- NEBRASKA A GREATER PERCENTAGE OF REPUBLICAN VOTERS THAN ANY OTHER STATE IN THE COUNTRY. CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED AT HIS LOSS, PRESIDENT FORD NEVERTHELESS

TOLD SUPPORTERS THAT HE HAD EXPECTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CAMPAIGN TO LOSE A NUMBER OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS -- BUT THAT HE ALSO EXPECTED, THEN AND NOW, TO WIN HIS PARTY'S NOMINATION.

TAPE: CUT ONE -- FORD -- :17

"WE KNEW THAT IN THE MONTH OF MAY THERE WOULD BE SOME DISAPPOINTMENTS. THERE HAVE BEEN. BUT WE DECIDED EARLY THAT WE WERE GOING TO ENTER EVERY PRIMARY, WE WERE GOING TO WIN ENOUGH DELEGATES TO GO TO (THE CONVENTION IN) KANSAS CITY, AND THAT WILL BE THE OUTCOME."

NARR:

JUST AS MISTER FORD WAS DISAPPOINTED, SO WAS MISTER REAGAN DELIGHTED AT HIS WIN IN NEBRASKA -- DELIGHTED BECAUSE HE BELIEVED IT TO BE A DEFINITE INDICATION OF HIS STRENGTH AT THE POLLS.

TAPE: CUT TWO -- REAGAN -- :28

"THIS WAS A VERY SIGNIFICANT STATE, A VERY SIGNIFICANT WIN. BECAUSE NEBRASKA, ON THE BASIS OF THE LAST TWO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, IS THE MOST REPUBLICAN STATE IN THE UNION. AND SO THE RESULT WAS THAT AFTER ALL THE RATIONALIZATION THAT OTHERS HAVE DONE ABOUT THE VICTORIES WE HAVE WON SO FAR, THIS ONE CAN'T BE RATIONALIZED AWAY."

NARR:

(OPT) LEADERS OF THE FORD CAMPAIGN -- IN THE WAKE OF PAST REAGAN PRIMARY VICTORIES -- HAD INDEED OFFERED EXPLANATIONS, OR WHAT MISTER REAGAN CALLED RATIONALIZATIONS, FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE SETBACK. BUT AFTER HIS CHALLENGER'S DECISIVE WIN IN NEBRASKA, PRESIDENT FORD WAS ADVISED THAT IF HE WANTED TO FIGHT OFF THAT CHALLENGE HE WOULD HAVE TO CAMPAIGN -- AND CAMPAIGN HARD FOR POPULAR SUPPORT. THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER, ROGERS MORTON, TOLD REPORTERS THAT MISTER FORD WOULD HAVE TO START WINNING AGAIN, AND SOON -- AND PARTICULARLY IN HIS HOME STATE OF MICHIGAN, WHERE VOTERS GO TO THE POLLS ON TUESDAY.

MISTER MORTON AND OTHER REPUBLICAN POLITICAL OBSERVERS AGREED THAT FAILURE BY MISTER FORD TO CARRY MICHIGAN -- WHERE HE HAD REPRESENTED A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS -- WOULD BE DAMAGING TO HIS CHANCES FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION. AND SO AT WEEK'S END, THE PRESIDENT WENT HOME TO MICHIGAN, TELLING VOTERS THERE THAT HE HAS DONE A GOOD JOB OF TURNING THE COUNTRY AROUND IN THE WAKE OF WATERGATE AND THE RECESSION -- AND THAT HE SHOULD BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO FINISH THE TASK. BUT MISTER REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN LEADERS, SENSING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A CRIPPLING BLOW TO THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN HOPES, STEPPED UP THEIR OWN CAMPAIGN, PLEDGING A HARD FIGHT -- AND HAMMERING AWAY AT THE ISSUES WHICH HAVE PROVEN SO SUCCESSFUL IN OTHER STATES. (END OPT)

AS THE RACE FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION GOT CLOSER THIS WEEK, THE CAMPAIGN AMONG DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONTENDERS RESULTED IN ANOTHER WIN FOR FORMER GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER -- BUT A SURPRISING LOSS AS WELL. MISTER CARTER, WHO HAS WON MOST OF THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARIES SO FAR, PICKED UP ANOTHER VICTORY IN CONNECTICUT, NARROWLY DEFEATING CONGRESSMAN MORRIS UDALL. BUT IN NEBRASKA, WHERE MOST OBSERVERS HAD ALSO PREDICTED A VICTORY, MISTER CARTER WAS BEATEN -- AGAIN BY A NARROW MARGIN -- BUT THIS TIME BY ONE OF THE NEWER ENTRIES IN THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, SENATOR FRANK CHURCH. MISTER CHURCH, A LIBERAL WHO CAMPAIGNED AGAINST WHAT HE SAYS ARE THE CONSERVATIVE POSITIONS TAKEN BY MISTER CARTER, SAID HE WAS STUNNED BY HIS VICTORY -- AND SAID IT HAD BREATHED NEW LIFE INTO HIS CAMPAIGN.

TAPE: CUT THREE -- CHURCH -- :00

"IF THE PRESENT TREND CONTINUES, WE REALLY HAVE PULLED A POLITICAL MIRACLE HERE IN NEBRASKA." (APPLAUSE -- FADE UNDER NARR)

NARR:

BUT THE MAN HE DEFEATED, JIMMY CARTER, DENIED IT WAS A MIRACLE -- NOTING THAT SENATOR CHURCH HAD SPENT FAR MORE TIME AND MONEY ON THE NEBRASKA CAMPAIGN THAN HE HAD. BY WEEK'S END, HOWEVER, MISTER CARTER'S DEFEAT, COMBINED WITH HIS NARROW VICTORY IN CONNECTICUT, APPEARED TO INDICATE THAT EVEN THOUGH HE WAS THE CURRENT FAVORITE TO WIN THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION, THE FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR WOULD HAVE TO CONTINUE HIS INTENSIVE CAMPAIGNING RIGHT THROUGH TO THE END OF THE SERIES OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS IN EARLY JUNE.

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(OPT) IN AN INTERESTING SIDELIGHT TO THE AMERICAN POLITICAL CAMPAIGN THIS WEEK, MISTER CARTER -- FAR AHEAD OF HIS DEMOCRATIC RIVALS FOR THE NOMINATION AND LEADING BY A WIDE MARGIN AGAINST BOTH PRESIDENT FORD AND MISTER REAGAN IN PUBLIC OPINION POLLS -- CONFIRMED THAT SEVERAL FOREIGN OFFICIALS HAD ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT HIM, INCLUDING SOVIET AMBASSADOR ANATOLY DOBRYNIN. THE OFFICIALS, HE SAID, HAD APPARENTLY WANTED TO DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICIES THAT WOULD BE PURSUED IF MISTER CARTER REACHED THE WHITE HOUSE. BUT THE LEADER IN THE DEMOCRATIC RACE SAID SUCH CONTACTS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME -- AND THAT MISTER DOBRYNIN AND OTHERS WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE NOMINATING PROCESS HAD ENDED. IN ANSWER TO SPECULATION THAT MOSCOW MIGHT PREFER MISTER CARTER OVER THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES, THE FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR SAID THE BEST THING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS COULD DO

TO HELP ANY CANDIDATE WOULD BE TO STAY OUT OF THE AMERICAN  
POLITICAL CAMPAIGN. (END OPT)

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WHETHER IN RESPONSE TO THE INCREASING FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE  
DURING THIS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR...OR AS THE RESULT OF  
CONTINUING UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES... TOP OFFICIALS  
OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION APPEARED FREQUENTLY IN PUBLIC THIS  
WEEK, TO EXPLAIN -- AND DEFEND -- AMERICAN FOREIGN AND  
DEFENSE POLICIES. GAINING THE BROADEST COVERAGE, SECRETARY  
OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, JUST BACK FROM HIS SIX-NATION TOUR  
OF BLACK AFRICA, WENT BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON TO REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF HIS VISIT.  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION WOULD  
BACK UP HIS PLEDGE TO WORK TOWARD MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.  
AND HE SAID THAT IN THE WAKE OF SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION  
IN ANGOLA, THE BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS WITH WHOM HE HAD SPOKEN  
HAD AGREED THAT OUTSIDE INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF LIBERATION  
MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SHOULD NOT BE SANCTIONED.

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- KISSINGER -- 1:26

"THIS REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF AFRICAN  
SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS, AND TOWARD DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS  
BETWEEN THE AFRICAN GROUPS INVOLVED, WHETHER BLACK OR WHITE.  
UNFORTUNATELY, THE VIOLENCE IN BLACK AFRICA HAS ALREADY BEGUN.  
BUT THE UNITED STATES HAS LENT ITS WEIGHT TO THE ONLY ROUTE  
THAT CAN STOP THE FIGHTING, AND ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES WHICH, I  
BELIEVE, ALL AMERICANS SUPPORT: THE GOALS OF INDEPENDENCE,  
SELF-DETERMINATION, MAJORITY RULE, MINORITY RIGHTS AND PEACEFUL  
CHANGE. (OPT) IT IS CLEAR FROM MY CONVERSATIONS WITH THE AFRICAN  
LEADERS THAT THEY RECOGNIZE AND WELCOME THIS STRONG ENDORSEMENT  
OF A POLICY WHICH OFFERS A PEACEFUL AND PRINCIPLED RESOLUTION  
OF THE MAJOR PROBLEMS FACING AFRICA. THERE WAS ALWAYS  
CONSIDERABLE SUSPICION IN OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES OF THE CUBAN  
PRESENCE IN ANGOLA, AND CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION AS TO WHERE  
THEY MIGHT DIRECT THEIR ENERGIES NEXT. BUT INSTEAD OF  
SEEING SUCH INTERVENTION AS INEVITABLE -- OR WORSE, BEYOND  
THEIR POWER TO PREVENT -- I BELIEVE MANY AFRICAN LEADERS NOW  
SEE THAT THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE, AND THAT THEY CAN COALESCE  
AROUND A PEACEFUL APPROACH." (END OPT)

NARR:

(OPT) EARLIER IN THE WEEK, SECRETARY KISSINGER SAID IN A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ADDRESS THAT HE BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE NO MORE ANGOLAS -- THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD RESIST MOVES BY ADVERSARIES TO GAIN UNILATERAL BENEFITS BY DIRECT OR INDIRECT MILITARY PRESSURE. AND, WHILE CALLING FOR A STRONG AMERICAN DEFENSE POSTURE, THE SECRETARY ALSO SAID THE UNITED STATES MUST CONTINUE ITS STRONG PURSUIT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN ORDER, IN HIS WORDS, "TO PUSH BACK THE SHADOW OF NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST." (END OPT)

IN PHILADELPHIA THIS WEEK, VICE PRESIDENT NELSON ROCKEFELLER (ALSO) CALLED FOR A CONTINUED HIGH LEVEL OF AMERICAN MILITARY STRENGTH -- AND URGED THE FREE NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO BLOCK THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM, AND PREVENT THE RISE OF WHAT HE CALLED A NEW SOVIET EMPIRE.

IN ATLANTA, DEFENSE SECRETARY DONALD RUMSFELD WARNED AGAINST CUTS IN MILITARY SPENDING, SAYING REDUCTIONS BY CONGRESS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS HAVE HAD A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON AMERICA'S DEFENSE POSTURE IN THE WORLD.

AND IN AN ARMED WEEK DAY CEREMONY OUTSIDE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT FORD PRAISED WHAT HE CALLED THE DEDICATION OF AMERICA'S MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM -- SAYING THAT IN AN EFFORT TO INSURE CONTINUED WORLD PEACE, HIS ADMINISTRATION WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE THEM WITH THE MOST EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ARSENAL MONEY COULD BUY.

TAPE: (OPT) CUT FIVE -- FORD -- 1:19

"WE HAVE LAID THE KEEL FOR THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF NEW MISSILE-LAUNCHING SUBMARINES, THE TRIDENT MISSILE FLEET, WHICH WILL BE THE FOUNDATION FOR A STRONG AND TECHNOLOGICALLY SUPERIOR FORCE THROUGH THE NINETEEN EIGHTIES; WE ARE DEVELOPING

A NEW MAIN BATTLE TANK, NEW FIGHTERS, A NEW INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE FOR THE NINETEEN EIGHTIES; AND, ONE EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF ADVANCED CAPABILITY IS THE NEW CRUISE MISSILE WE ARE DEVELOPING FOR OUR AIR AND NAVAL FORCES. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGY IN WHICH WE LEAD THE WORLD. THE WEAPONS WE HOLD TODAY AND THOSE WE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE GIVE AMERICA A MIGHTY POWER; BUT WITH SUCH POWER COMES A MIGHTY RESPONSIBILITY. WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH OUR ARSENAL IS INTENDED: THAT PURPOSE IS NOT TO TERRIFY THE WEAK, TO PROVOKE ARMED CONFRONTATION, NOR TO LAY CLAIM TO THAT WHICH IS NOT OURS. OUR PURPOSE IS TO DEFEND FREEDOM, AND TO MAINTAIN A FOUNDATION OF STRENGTH ON WHICH A BETTER AND MORE PEACEFUL WORLD CAN BE BUILT." (END OPT)

NARR:

(OPT) AT WEEK'S END, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT THESE PERSISTENT APPEALS BY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS FOR A STRONG DEFENSE POSTURE HAD HAD AN EFFECT. FOR AS THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEFENSE SPENDING REQUEST BEGAN ITS LONG TRIP THROUGH CONGRESS, THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTED TO CUT ONLY EIGHT HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE MILITARY PACKAGE -- LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT ASKED FOR BY PRESIDENT FORD. REPORTS INDICATED THE CUT BY THE COMMITTEE WAS THE SMALLEST IN TEN YEARS. (END OPT)

(OPT) IN LIGHT OF WHITE HOUSE CALLS FOR A STRONG DEFENSE, A MOVE TO DELAY THE SIGNING OF A NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY WITH MOSCOW GENERATED A MILD CONTROVERSY THIS WEEK. CRITICS OF PRESIDENT FORD CHARGED THAT THE SIGNING CEREMONY -- ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY -- HAD BEEN POSTPONED IN ORDER TO DENY REPUBLICAN CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN, CAMPAIGNING IN MICHIGAN, THE OPPORTUNITY OF CHARGING THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS GIVING FURTHER GROUND TO THE SOVIET UNION. BUT THE WHITE HOUSE HEATEDLY DENIED THAT THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY TO LIMIT THE SIZE OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR TESTS HAD BEEN DELAYED FOR POLITICAL REASONS -- SAYING THAT POSTPONEMENT HAD BEEN REQUIRED BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL

PROBLEMS. NEWS REPORTS INDICATED THAT PREPARATIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE COMPLETED NEXT WEEK -- BUT NOT BEFORE MICHIGAN VOTERS GO TO THE POLLS. (END OPT)

AT THE UNITED NATIONS THIS WEEK THE SUBJECT OF AMERICAN MILITARY MIGHT -- AND THE CONTINUING NUCLEAR ARMS RACE -- WAS AMONG THE TOPICS AT A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY. AND ONE OF THE SPEAKERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL GATHERING WAS JIMMY CARTER, WHO DELIVERED HIS FIRST MAJOR ADDRESS ON THE SUBJECT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS SINCE BECOMING A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. MISTER CARTER CALLED ON THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE THE LEAD IN HALTING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS -- SAYING THAT SMALLER NATIONS WOULD OTHERWISE CONTINUE TO SEEK NUCLEAR MILITARY POTENTIAL.

TAPE: CUT SIX -- CARTER -- 1:05

"I BELIEVE WE HAVE LITTLE RIGHT TO ASK OTHERS TO DENY THEMSELVES SUCH WEAPONS FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE, UNLESS WE DEMONSTRATE MEANINGFUL PROGRESS TOWARD THE GOAL OF CONTROL, AND THEN REDUCTION, AND ULTIMATELY COMPLETE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR ARSENALS. THE WORLD IS WAITING, BUT NOT NECESSARILY FOR LONG. THE LONGER EFFECTIVE ARMS REDUCTION IS POSTPONED, THE MORE LIKELY THAT OTHER NATIONS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN NUCLEAR CAPABILITY. THERE IS ONE STEP THAT CAN BE TAKEN AT ONCE: THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION SHOULD CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT PROHIBITING ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST FIVE YEARS, WHETHER THEY BE WEAPONS TESTS OR SO-CALLED PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, AND ENCOURAGE ALL OTHER NATIONS TO JOIN." (APPLAUSE)

NARR:

(OPT) FOLLOWING MISTER CARTER'S ADDRESS, FRED IKLE, DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF COUNTRIES PUSHING TO DEVELOP A NUCLEAR WEAPONS POTENTIAL, AND SAID THAT THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY -- THOUGH ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE



INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES IN OPERATION -- WAS NEVERTHELESS NOT EFFECTIVE IN ITS EFFORTS TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE NUCLEAR MATERIALS OWNED BY ITS ONE HUNDRED AND SIX MEMBER COUNTRIES. (END OPT)

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ALSO AT THE UNITED NATIONS THIS WEEK -- A CONTINUING BUT INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE ON ISRAELI POLICIES IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. THE DEBATE WAS CALLED FOR BY EGYPT -- A MOVE WHICH ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON CRITICIZED AS TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON RELATIONS BETWEEN CAIRO AND TEL AVIV -- IN AN EFFORT TO PRESS EGYPT'S CASE AGAINST WHAT IT CALLS ISRAEL'S ABUSE OF ARAB RESIDENTS IN THE GAZA STRIP AND ALONG THE WEST BANK. RECENT ARAB DEMONSTRATIONS IN SEVERAL TOWNS ON THE WEST BANK HAVE FOCUSED WORLD ATTENTION ON THE ARABS IN THE REGION, AND IN THE EYES OF MANY POLITICAL OBSERVERS, HAVE PRECIPITATED A CRISIS FOR THE COALITION GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN. IN A MARATHON CABINET SESSION LAST WEEKEND, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ITS ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONTROVERSIAL JEWISH SETTLEMENT OF KADUM ON THE WEST BANK -- BUT PUT OFF THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO FORCIBLY EVICT JEWS WHO HAD ALREADY MOVED INTO THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY. LATER IN THE WEEK, PRESIDENT FORD TOLD A WASHINGTON GATHERING THAT WHILE THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FIRM IN ITS PLEDGE TO GUARANTEE ISRAEL'S FREEDOM HE BELIEVES THAT ISRAEL SHOULD GIVE UP SOME OF ITS OCCUPIED TERRITORY IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AND, ON THE FLOOR OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ONE ARAB REPRESENTATIVE AFTER ANOTHER ROSE THIS WEEK TO ACCUSE

ISRAEL OF OPPRESSION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IN A SHARP CONDEMNATION OF ISRAELI ACTIVITY ON THE WEST BANK, SOVIET AMBASSADOR JACOB MALIK ALSO CHARGED THAT OCCUPYING FORCES WERE GUILTY OF TERRORISM. IN TRANSLATION, HE WAS HEARD TO SAY:

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- MALIK TRANSLATOR -- :36

"THE DISTINGUISHED DELEGATE OF SYRIA SHOWED US A HEADLINE ON THE FIRST PAGE OF AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER, TO THE EFFECT THAT YOUR OCCUPATION FORCES ARE EXPELLING THE INDIGENOUS ARAB POPULATION OF THE TERRITORY AND POPULATING THE REGION WITH ISRAELI CITIZENS. THIS IS ONE FORM OF TERRORISM. FURTHERMORE, THIS IS GENOCIDE; THIS MEANS THAT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM THEIR HOMELANDS, AND MUST DIE SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE ANY MEANS OF LIFE. THIS IS THE POLICY OF ISRAEL TOWARD THE POPULATIONS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES."

NARR:

IN A SHARP REPLY TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S CHARGE, ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE CHAIM HERZOG DENIED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS WAGING A TERRORIST CAMPAIGN -- AND ACCUSED THE SOVIET UNION OF VIEWING THE SUBJECT OF TERRORISM SELECTIVELY.

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- HERZOG -- :32

"WHEN ISRAELI DIPLOMATS WERE SHOT IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD; WHEN TURKISH, BOLIVIAN AND SPANISH DIPLOMATS WERE SHOT DOWN IN PARIS; WHEN AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON THE LIFE OF THE JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR BY THE (PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION) IN LONDON; WHAT WAS THE REACTION? DID NOT THE SOVIET DELEGATION JOIN HANDS WITH THE ARAB DELEGATES TO KILL AND BURY THE ITEM ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THIS ORGANIZATION? THE RECORD IS THERE FOR EVERYBODY TO SEE AND READ."

NARR:

VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST TOOK ON A NEW DIMENSION THIS WEEK...AS A MAJOR SPLIT DEVELOPED BETWEEN LEFTIST MOSLEMS AND SYRIAN-BACKED PALESTINIAN FORCES IN LEBANON. FIGHTING BROKE OUT BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS DURING THE WEEK, AS A PRO-IRAQI ELEMENT OF LEBANON'S LEFT WING FORCES CHARGED THAT SYRIA

WAS GUILTY OF A FLAGRANT INTERVENTION IN THE BLOODY CIVIL WAR. A PROMINENT LEFT-WING LEADER, KAMAL JUMBLATT, ALSO DEMANDED THAT SYRIA WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM LEBANON -- AND PRESS REPORTS SPECULATED THAT THERE WERE SEVERAL THOUSAND SYRIAN TROOPS IN LEBANON, DISGUISED AS PALESTINE LIBERATION ARMY FORCES. BUT AT WEEK'S END, SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD CABLED LEBANON'S PRESIDENT-ELECT, ELIAS SARKIS, TO SAY THAT SYRIA IS ONLY INTERESTED IN PRESERVING LEBANON AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION -- AND RIGHT-WING BACKERS OF MISTER SARKIS SAID SYRIAN AID IS NEEDED TO RESTORE ORDER AMONG THE WARRING FACTIONS. MEANWHILE, PRESIDENT SULEIMAN FRANJIH REMAINED BARRICADED IN HIS RESIDENCE, AND GAVE NO INDICATION AS TO WHEN HE WOULD RESIGN. NEVERTHELESS, UNITED STATES ENVOY DEAN BROWN -- SENT TO LEBANON TO AID IN BRINGING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION -- TOLD A BEIRUT NEWS CONFERENCE THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT PEACE WOULD SOON COME.

TAPE: CUT NINE -- BROWN -- :28

"RECONCILIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION, I WOULD HOPE, WOULD BE THE MOTTO OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. I'VE TALKED WITH THE NEW PRESIDENT; HE'S A FINE MAN, HE'S A DEDICATED MAN. IF HE ASKS US, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL JOIN OTHER COUNTRIES, OTHER INSTITUTIONS, IN THE TASK OF RECONSTRUCTION IN LEBANON."

NARR:

UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OF A DEVASTATED LAND WERE ALSO IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK IN ITALY -- WHERE A SERIES OF EARTH TREMORS HAVE KILLED MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND PERSONS, AND LEFT ANOTHER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND HOMELESS. THE INITIAL QUAKE LATE LAST WEEK HAD BEEN FELT THROUGHOUT MUCH OF ITALY -- BUT HAD ALSO SHAKEN BUILDINGS AND BROKEN WINDOWS AS FAR AWAY AS YUGOSLAVIA, BELGIUM, NORTHERN FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY. IN

NORTHERN ITALY, A SERIES OF SHOCKS DESTROYED THOUSANDS OF HOMES, AND ALSO ACCOMPLISHED WHAT ANCIENT WARRIORS HAD BEEN UNABLE TO DO -- IN A BLOW TO THE NATION'S CULTURAL HERITAGE, THE TREMORS DESTROYED OR HEAVILY DAMAGED MANY OF THE FORTIFICATIONS BUILT BY THE ROMAN LEGIONS, AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF CASTLES, CATHEDRALS AND CHURCHES TO THE SOUTH. SENT BY PRESIDENT FORD TO SURVEY THE DESTRUCTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER TOURED THE AREA, MET WITH ITALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND RESCUE WORKERS, AND CONVEYED THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLEDGE TO GRANT TWENTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS IN EMERGENCY AID. (OPT) AT THE END OF HIS VISIT, THE VICE PRESIDENT WAS ASKED FOR HIS IMPRESSIONS.

TAPE: CUT TEN -- ROCKEFELLER -- :47

"ONE, THE GREAT EFFICIENCY AND SPEED WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY AND THE MILITARY FORCES OF ITALY HAVE MOVED TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE CRISES -- PROVIDING FOOD, CARE FOR THE INJURED, AND SHELTER (FOR THE HOMELESS.) SECONDLY, I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE TREMENDOUS COURAGE AND STRENGTH OF THE PEOPLE, THEIR WONDERFUL SPIRIT. AND THIRD, (I SAW THAT) THE PEOPLE DO NOT FEEL SORRY FOR THEMSELVES, BUT INSTEAD ARE WORKING TO GET MATERIAL TO REBUILD THEIR HOMES. THEY'RE LOOKING TO THE FUTURE." (END OPT)

NARR:

AT WEEK'S END IT APPEARED THAT RELIEF EFFORTS FOLLOWING THE EARTHQUAKE WOULD BECOME AN ISSUE IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, WHICH HAS SHOWN INCREASING STRENGTH IN RECENT MONTHS, CRITICIZED DELAYS IN THE RELIEF EFFORT. THE RULING CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS RESPONDED THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WAS BEING DONE -- AND PRIME MINISTER ALDO MORO DENOUNCED WHAT HE CALLED BIASED SPECULATION AND EXCESSIVE CRITICISM. IN THE TOWNS AND VILLAGES NEAR THE DOLOMITE MOUNTAINS, MEANWHILE, SURVIVORS OF THE DISASTER CONTINUED TO PULL BODIES FROM THE RUBBLE,

AND RELIEF WORKERS WARNED THAT LARGE AREAS MIGHT SOON TO BURIED UNDER MASSIVE MUDSLIDES. IF THERE WAS ANY GOOD NEWS FROM THE REGION, IT WAS THE FEARS OF AN EPIDEMIC IN THE DISASTER ZONE HAD RECEDED.

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(OPT) AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE TOP STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES THIS WEEK. YOUR NARRATOR WAS -----, JOIN US AGAIN NEXT -----, WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS, ON "THIS WEEK." (END OPT)

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